

**RUSHVILLE CITY COMMON COUNCIL
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 16, 2003
6:00 P.M.**

The Rushville City Common Council met on the above date and time at 270 West 15th Street, Rushville, Indiana. Mayor Bridges called the meeting to order at 6:05 with Bill Goins, Darrin McGowan, Brian Sheehan, and John Byrne answering roll call. Mike Pavey was not present. Also present were City Attorney, Tracy Newhouse, Jan Voiles, *Rushville Republican*, and Scott Murray, WKWH. Mayor Bridges asked for a moment of silence in honor of the passing of Governor Frank O'Bannon.

MINUTES * * *

Minutes of the September 2, 2003 meeting were presented for approval. Byrne made a motion to accept the minutes as presented. Goins seconded the motion. Motion carried.

MAYOR'S REPORT * * *

Mayor Bridges reported the following:

- Closing has taken place on the Yorn property and the property was sold to Charlie Farthing.
- The property located at 316 W 1st Street is being Quit-Claimed to Habitat for Humanity.

CLERK-TREASURER'S REPORT * * *

Pursuant to the request of the State Board of Accounts, Copley asked Council to approve a list of bankruptcies that had been filed listing the City as a creditor. These loans were rehab loans and micro loans. Goins made a motion to approve writing off the list of bankruptcies. Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS * * *

None.

CITIZEN CONCERNS * * *

Brian Sheehan said he had a complaint on the use of golf carts. Police Chief Fudge stated that to his knowledge there are no regulations. Sheehan suggested that we check with other cities to see how they may be dealing with this type of problem, possibly limiting the use of golf carts.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS * * *

Ordinance 2003-5, Elected Officials Salary Ordinance – Ordinance 2003-5 was presented for third and final reading, giving a 4% salary increase for elected officials. Byrne made a motion to approve Salary Ordinance 2003-5 on third and final reading. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2004 Budget – Bridges explained that they have just been notified that the Police Department is going to have to get a new IDACS system. This will increase the phone bill significantly. It was agreed to take care of the initial cost this year and leave the phone budget for next year at \$14,000.00.

Copley informed Council that in the Park Department the line item for Program Director was not added to the salary ordinance. If this was something that was going to be kept then the salary ordinance would need to be revised to add this item. After lengthy discussion it was decided that this was something that had been discussed last year, and Sheehan made a motion to revise the salary ordinance to include the Program Director in the Park Department salary. Byrne seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Bill Goins strongly suggested to consider an emergency fund. He also stated that this would be his last budget, but urged those members returning next year to go through the budget line item by line item since it would be very helpful to any new members.

Sheehan made a motion to approve the 2004 budget with the cuts suggested by the Mayor. McGowan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Report on Alley on Julian Street – Newhouse reported that the title search did not show an alley previously being present on Julian Street. He suggested the neighbors get together to see if they want to pursue this. A resident of Julian Street stated that the neighbors on the end of the Street were not in favor of an alley. Bridges said the other option would be to make it a one-way street. Bridges then said the matter would be referred to the safety committee for a solution.

Ordinance of Annexation – Goins made a motion to set the adoption of the ordinance on annexation for October 7. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS * * *

Softball Diamond Agreement – Bob Lacy was present to voice his concern on a misunderstanding of the agreement on the softball diamond. He stated that he had a verbal agreement in 1977 and did not understand why that no longer seemed to be effective. Newhouse informed Lacy that a lease was signed in 1996 and 1997, but did need to be renewed. He stated that the City owns the land and may do whatever they wish with it.

When asked exactly what Lacy was asking of the Council he said that they should have the “say so” on the diamond not the high school.

After lengthy and sometimes heated discussion, Goins made a motion to have the Mayor appoint a committee to work out an agreement on the usage and maintenance of the ball diamond. The committee would consist of Council members, Park Board members, representatives from the High School, and representatives from the Men’s Softball. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried. Bridges appointed Goins and Sheehan to the committee.

Claims – Byrne made a motion to approve the claims as presented. Sheehan seconded the motion. Motion carried.

There being no further business to come before Council, McGowan made a motion to adjourn. Sheehan seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

ROBERT M. BRIDGES, MAYOR

WILLIAM R. GOINS, MEMBER

DARRIN L. MCGOWAN, MEMBER

BRIAN J. SHEEHAN, MEMBER

JOHN M. BYRNE, MEMBER

MICHAEL P. PAVEY, MEMBER

ATTEST:

ANN L. COPLEY, CLERK-TREASURER